

**Gul Fireball Worlds 2015**  
The 48th International Fireball World Championships  
Saturday 22nd August to Friday 28th August 2015  
And The 53rd International Fireball UK National and Open Championships  
Monday 17th August to Friday 21st August 2015  
Organising Authority: The United Kingdom Fireball Association  
In conjunction with Clwb Hwyllo Pwllheli Sailing Club, Wales

## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

### 1 RULES

1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing.

1.2 The national prescriptions that will apply are stated in full below:

#### Rule 5 Anti-doping

The national authority procedural rules required by ISAF regulation 21.14 to implement the World Anti-Doping Code through ISAF Regulation 21 are the RYA Anti-Doping Rules, as published on the RYA website.

#### Rule 67 Damages

1. Any issue of liability or claim for damages arising from an incident while a boat is bound by The Racing Rules of Sailing shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the courts and not considered by a protest committee.
2. A boat that takes a penalty or retires does not thereby admit liability for damages or that she has broken a rule.

1.3 If there is a conflict between languages the English text will take precedence.

1.4 Those competitors entering only the World Championships will not be permitted to race in the UK National and Open Championships and are required to keep clear of the racing area at all times when racing is taking place in the UK National and Open Championships.

1.5 Rule 42 is changed to insert a new rule, Rule 42.3(j):

“42.3(j) When the wind speed is clearly over 12 knots across the course, the Race Committee may signal in accordance with Rule Appendix P5 that pumping, rocking and ooching are permitted after the starting signal. This changes Rules 42.2(a), 42.2 (b) and 42.2(c).”

1.6 Under rule 87, rules A.1.3(a)(2) and A.1.4(a)(1) of Appendix 4 of the International Fireball class rules are changed as follows:

Subject to the approval of the race committee, a boat chartered or loaned for the event may declare at the time of entry or registration a sail number which may be different from the registered number of the hull provided that the number declared shall not be the sail number of any other boat competing in the regatta.

1.7 Rule 40 and the preamble to Part 4 are changed as follows:

1.7(a) The first sentence of rule 40 is deleted and replaced by: “Each competitor shall wear a personal flotation device (PFD) while on the water, except when adding or removing clothing.”

1.7(b) Add to the preamble of Part 4, after “racing”: “except rule 40 as amended by instruction 1.7(a)”

### 2 IDENTIFICATION AND ADVERTISING

Boats are required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organising authority, except when they have received written permission not to do so from the race committee.

### 3 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located in the hall of the Academy building

### 4 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0900 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

## 5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at the flagpole on the Academy terrace.
- 5.2 Flag D with one sound means 'The warning signal will be made not less than 45 minutes after flag D is displayed. On days when racing is scheduled, competitors in that series shall not launch until this signal is made.

## 6 FORMAT OF RACING

The UK National and Open Championships will consist of a single series.  
The World Championships will consist of a single series.

## 7 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 7.1 Dates of racing and number of races:

### UK National and Open Championships

Date	Number of races	Warning signal
Tuesday 18th August	Two	12:55
Wednesday 19th August	Two	12:55
Thursday 20th August	Two	12:55
Friday 21st August	Two	10:55

### World Championships

Date	Number of races	Warning signal
Sunday 23rd August	Two	12:55
Monday 24th August	Two	12:55
Tuesday 25th August	Two	10:55
Wednesday 26th August	Lay Day	
Thursday 27th August	Two	12:55
Friday 28th August	Two	10:55

- 7.2 One extra race per day may be sailed on any day, but the programme shall not become more than one race ahead of schedule and the change is made according to instruction 4. The scheduled Lay Day may become a racing day if the Principal Race Officer deems it necessary in order to complete a satisfactory number of races for the World Championship.
- 7.3 To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the orange starting line flag will be displayed with one sound at least five minutes before a warning signal is made.
- 7.4 On the last scheduled racing day for each series no warning signal will be made after 15:00.

## 8 CLASS FLAGS

The class flags will be square, with a red disc on a blue background.

## 9 RACING AREAS

The racing area will be Tremadog Bay.

## 10 THE COURSES

- 10.1 The diagram in Attachment 1 shows the courses, including the course signals, approximate angles between legs, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- 10.2 When a gate start is being used, the start area shown in Attachment 1 is modified as shown in Attachment 2.
- 10.3 No later than the warning signal, the race committee signal boat will display the approximate compass bearing of the first leg.

## 11 MARKS

- 11.1 Marks 1, 1a, 3 and 4 will be orange cylindrical marks.  
Marks 2S and 2P will be black tetrahedral marks.

- 11.2 The starting marks for a line start will be a committee boat at the starboard end of the start line and a committee boat at the port end. A red cylindrical mark may be positioned approximately mid way along the start line. This mark is not a mark of the course and is not part of the start line.
- 11.3 The starting marks for a gate start will be the port limit mark (and orange cylindrical mark laid close to the starting vessel), the pathfinder (until released), the gate launch (displaying flag G) and the guard launch (displaying flag F).
- 11.4 The finishing marks will be a committee boat at the starboard end of the line and a dan buoy with a blue flag at the port end of the line.

## 12 AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

When sailing between the launching area and the racing area, competitors shall keep clear of vessels entering and leaving Pwllheli harbour.

## 13 THE START

13.1 Starts will be made using either a line start or a gate start.

### 13.2 Line start

- a) The starting line will be between staffs displaying orange flags on the starting marks.
- b) If flag U has been displayed as the preparatory signal, no part of a boat's hull, crew, or equipment shall be in the triangle formed by the ends of the starting line and the first mark during the last minute before her starting signal. If a boat breaks this rule and is identified, she shall be disqualified without a hearing but not if the race is restarted or resailed or postponed or abandoned before the starting signal. This changes rule 26.
- c) A boat starting later than four minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes rules A4 and A5.
- d) Visual signals will be repeated on the pin end boat. There will be no sound signals from the pin end boat.

### 13.3 Gate start

When flag G is displayed on the race committee signal boat a gate start will be used. The procedure for the gate start is as follows:

- a) Starting Area:  
The committee boat will be in the starting area, which will be to leeward of the course ( Attachment 2). The port limit mark will be laid at the leeward end of the gate.
- b) Distinguishing Flags & Signals:  
The committee boat and gate launch will display flag G. When used, the guard launch will display flag F. The starting signals will be made from the committee boat.
- c) Selection of Pathfinder:  
The race committee will nominate the pathfinder and a reserve pathfinder for the first race. Subsequently, the pathfinder will be the tenth boat in the preceding race. When she is unable to race, or has been the pathfinder previously in the event, the pathfinder will be the eleventh boat in the preceding race and so on. The reserve pathfinder will be the next boat in the previous race. The sail numbers of pathfinder and reserve for the first race of each day will be posted on the official notice board, and will be displayed on the side of the committee boat at least 10 minutes before the preparatory signal for the first race. If more than one race is sailed on the same day, the numbers will be displayed on the side of the committee boat at least 10 minutes before the preparatory signal for each successive race. The pathfinder and reserve shall report to the committee boat as soon as possible after her number is displayed and before the preparatory signal. A pathfinder or reserve that fails to report will be scored Did Not Start. This changes rules A4 and A5.
- (d) Positioning of Pathfinder, Gate Launch and Guard Launch:  
At or up to 15 seconds before the starting signal the pathfinder shall commence her close-hauled port tack from within one boat length of the port limit mark, leaving the mark to port, followed by the gate launch which will keep close astern of her. If the pathfinder is unable to do this, the race committee will signal a general recall. When used, the guard launch will protect the pathfinder and will keep station off her starboard bow.
- (e) Starting Line:  
The starting line for all boats except the pathfinder will be between the port limit mark and the centre of the stern of the gate launch.

(f) Pathfinder Course:

The approximate time that the gate launch will be in motion along the port tack course after the starting signal will be displayed on the starboard side of the committee boat before the warning signal. The pathfinder shall maintain her close-hauled course until she is released by a hail from the gate launch, and may tack onto starboard. After releasing the pathfinder, the gate launch and guard launch will maintain their course and speed. At the end of the period of time displayed on the committee boat (which may be extended at the discretion of the race committee) the gate launch will stop, lower flag G half way with a sound, and drift for at least one minute. Flag G will then be fully lowered with a sound to indicate the closing of the gate. No boat shall start after the gate start line is closed.

(g) Starting:

Boats other than the Pathfinder shall start by crossing the starting line on starboard tack after the starting signal and before the gate closes.

(h) A boat that has not already started correctly, and that is on the course side of the gate launch while the gate is open, shall not cross the starting line from the course side.

(i) Interference with Pathfinder, Gate Launch and Guard Launch:

After the preparatory signal, a boat shall not threaten the unobstructed sailing of the pathfinder, and shall not interfere with or try to pass between the pathfinder and the gate launch or guard launch, or cause another boat to interfere in these ways.

(j) If a boat infringes instructions (h) or (i) and is identified, she will be disqualified without a hearing, even if the race is restarted, re-sailed, or rescheduled. If a general recall is signalled or the race is abandoned after the starting signal, the race committee will display her sail number before the next warning signal for that race, and if the race is restarted or resailed she shall not sail in it. If she does so her disqualification will not be excluded in calculating her series score. This changes rules 36 and 63.1.

(k) A boat that cannot avoid touching a starting mark may hail a right-of-way boat for room and shall retire.

## 14 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will move the original mark (or the finishing line) to a new position.

## 15 THE FINISH

15.1 The finishing line will be between the staff displaying a blue flag on the committee boat and the port end finishing mark.

### 15.2 Alternative Finish Line

After the first boat has finished, the race committee may set alternative finishing lines as follows:

- (a) When a committee boat displays flag W with two sounds, boats that have not yet rounded the nearby mark shall finish between this mark and the staff on the boat displaying flag W.
- (b) When flag W is displayed near a mark that ends multiple legs of the course, separate finish lines exist and separate finishing orders will be recorded for each of these lines.
- (c) When a boat finishes in accordance with this instruction, she shall be awarded a finishing place after all boats that have passed the nearby mark ahead of her before flag W was displayed.
- (d) Boats that have passed the mark before flag W is displayed, and have not retired from the race, but subsequently fail to finish, shall be awarded the average of the points for places available to them had they finished. This changes RRS A4.2.
- (e) The times specified in SI 17 will apply also at every flag W finish line defined by SI 15.2 (a).

## 16 PENALTY SYSTEM AND EXONERATION

16.1 Appendix P will apply as changed by instruction 1.5 and 16.2.

16.2 Rule P2.3 will not apply and rule P2.2 is changed to apply to any penalty after the first one.

### 16.3 Exoneration

16.3.1 Rule 44.1 is changed to permit a boat that has broken a rule of Part 2, where there is no serious damage or injury, or rule 31 to take a penalty after racing but prior to any protest hearing.

16.3.2 The penalty will be a scoring penalty as calculated in rule 44.3 equal to 30% of the number of

boats entered rounded up to the next whole number.

16.3.3 After application of a penalty the scores of other boats will not be changed, therefore, two boats may receive the same score.

## 17 TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

- 17.1 The target time for each race will be between 60 and 75 minutes, depending on weather conditions. Failure to meet the target time will not be grounds for redress. This changes rule 62.1(a).
- 17.2 The Mark 1 time limit will be 30 minutes. If no boat has passed Mark 1 within the Mark 1 time limit the race will be abandoned.
- 17.3 The time limit for the race will be 120 minutes.
- 17.4 Boats failing to finish, or meet the requirements of SI 15.2, within 20 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes rules 35, A4 and A5.

## 18 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 18.1 Protest forms are available at the race office, located in the Academy building. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the time limit.
- 18.2 The protest time limit is 90 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later.
- 18.3 Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties. Hearings will be held in the protest room, located at the Academy building, beginning at the time posted
- 18.4 Notices of protests by the race committee or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under rule 61.1(b).
- 18.5 A list of boats that have been penalized under Appendix P for breaking rule 42 will be posted.
- 18.6 Breaches of instructions 1.7, 2, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, and 27 will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes rule 60.1(a). Penalties for these breaches may be less than disqualification if the protest committee so decides.
- 18.7 On the last scheduled day of racing in each series a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered
  - (a) within the protest time limit if the requesting party was informed of the decision on the previous day;
  - (b) no later than 30 minutes after the requesting party was informed of the decision on that day.This changes rule 66.
- 18.8 Decisions of the international jury will be final as provided in rule 70.5.

## 19 SCORING

- 19.1 In each series, one race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 19.2 In each series:
  - (a) When fewer than 5 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
  - (b) When from 5 to 8 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
  - (c) When 9 or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her two worst scores.
- 19.3 To request correction of an alleged error in posted race or series results, a boat may complete a scoring enquiry form available at the race office.

## 20 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 20.1 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible. The boat shall complete a retirement declaration form at the protest desk on return ashore.
- 20.2 All competitors shall collect wrist tally bands when their boat is moved from the dinghy park to the beach. The tally bands must be worn at all times until their boat is returned to the dinghy park.

## 21 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

- 21.1 Substitution of competitors will not be allowed without prior written approval of the race committee.



21.2 In any one series a boat shall not have more than one mast, boom, centreboard and rudder and two suits of sails. These items shall be declared to the race committee before the start of the series. In the event of serious damage the Race Committee may authorise the use of a replacement.

## 22 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions. On the water, a boat can be instructed by a race committee equipment inspector or measurer to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

## 23 OFFICIAL BOATS

Race committee boats (except mark laying boats) will display "Plas Heli" flags. Safety boats will be display red flags. Jury boats will display white flags.

## 24 SUPPORT BOATS

24.1 Team leaders, coaches and other support personnel shall stay at least 100 metres outside areas where boats are racing from the time of the preparatory signal to start until all boats have finished or retired or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment. The penalty for an infringement of this clause may include a penalty against boats connected with the infringing support boat.

24.2 Support boats shall be marked with blue flags.

## 25 TRASH DISPOSAL

Trash may be placed aboard support or official boats.

## 26 BERTHING

Boats shall be kept in their assigned places while they are in the dinghy park.

## 27 RADIO COMMUNICATION

Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.

## 28 PRIZES

28.1 UK National and Open Championships

Prizes will be awarded to the first 6 boats in the UK National and Open Championships. Other prizes may be awarded. Class prizes will be given as follows:

UK Fireball National Champion Helm	Access National Trophy
UK Fireball National Champion Crew	The City of Plymouth Trophy
UK Fireball Open Champion	Shackleton Painting
Winner of Race 1	Norris Fireball Trophy
Winner of Race 2	The Urban District Council Plate
Winner of Race 3	The Chippendale Hull
Winner of Race 4	The Contac Trophy
Winner of Race 5	The Hyde Trophy
Winner of Race 6	The Peter Milne Trophy
Winner of Race 7	The Yachts and Yachting Trophy
Winner of Race 8	The Anya Charlotte Trophy

28.2 World Championship

Prizes will be awarded to the first 10% + 1 boats in the World Championship. Other prizes may be awarded. Class prizes will be given as follows:

Overall World Champion Worlds	Trophy
World Champion Crew	Humbolt Trophy
First Classic Boat As defined in Attachment 3	Classic Boat Trophy
First Lady Helm	Thalassa Trophy
Perseverance award	Geest Trophy
First Helm & Crew age under 25 years	TBA
Winner of Race 1	Moore Trophy
Winner of Race 2	Rondar Trophy
Winner of Race 3	Volvo Trophy
Winner of Race 4	Certina Trophy
Winner of Race 5	Mildara Wines Trophy
Winner of Race 6	Bell Bowl
Winner of Race 7	Sponsor Trophy
Winner of Race 8	RVYC Trophy
Winner of Race 9	Safaricom Kenya Trophy
Winner of Race 10	P & B Trophy

## 29 RISK STATEMENT

Rule 4 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states that: “The responsibility for a boat’s decision to race or to continue racing is hers alone.”

Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:

- (a) They are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves, their crew and their boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the event;
- (b) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and any other property whether afloat or ashore
- (c) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
- (d) Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
- (e) The provision of a race management team, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
- (f) The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances.

## 30 INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £3 million per incident or the equivalent.

## 31 RIGHTS TO USE NAME AND LIKENESS

By participating in this event, competitors automatically grant to the organizing authority and the event sponsors the right, in perpetuity, to make, use, and show, at their discretion, any photography, audio and video recordings, and other reproductions of them made at the venue or on the water from the time of their arrival at the venue, until their final departure, without compensation.

## 32 USE OF ELECTRONIC VIDEO RECORDING EQUIPMENT

Competitors are permitted to use electronic video recording equipment whilst racing, provided that there is no output during racing. This modifies International Fireball Class Rule 8 in accordance with RRS 87. Output will not be admissible as evidence during any protest or redress hearing.

**OTHER INFORMATION**

**UK National and Open Championships**

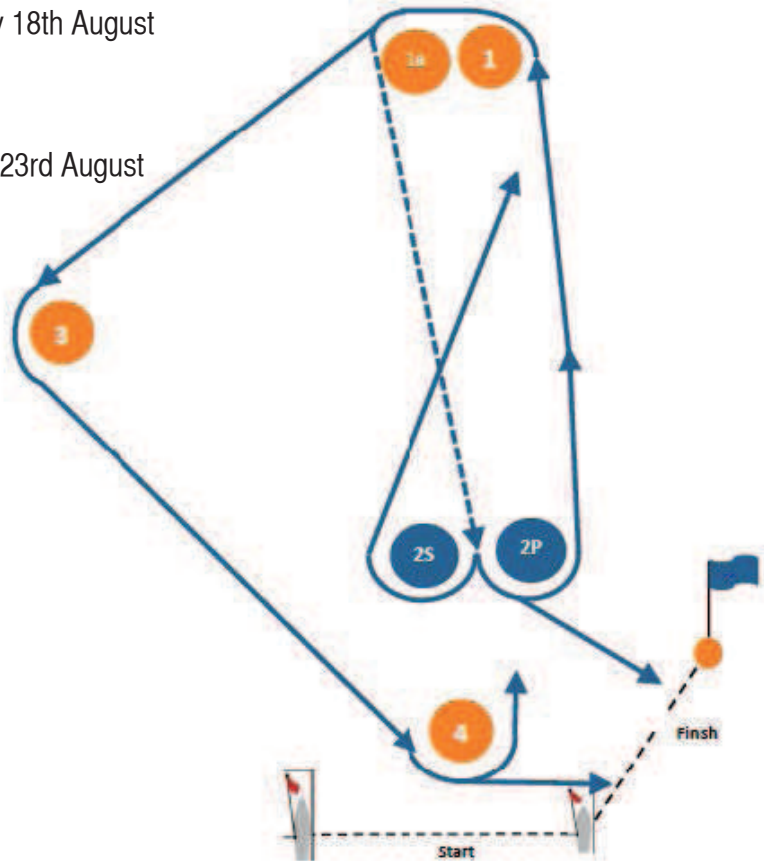
There will be a competitor briefing on Tuesday 18th August at 10:30 in the main hall of Plas Heli.

**World Championships**

There will be a competitor briefing on Sunday 23rd August at 10:30 in the main hall of Plas Heli.

**ATTACHMENT 1 – COURSES**

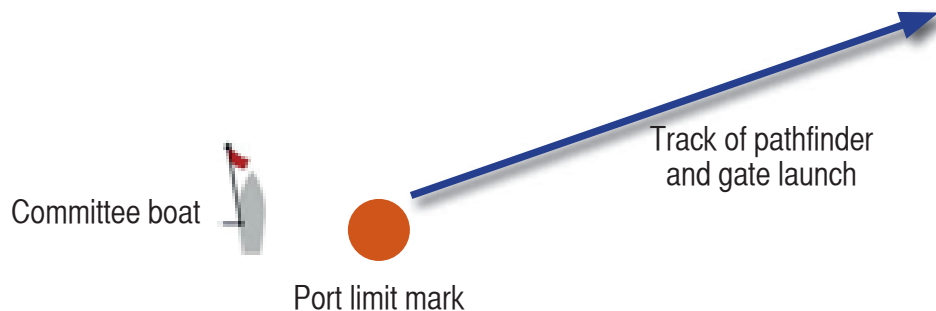
Sausage/Triangle (ST)  
and Triangle/Sausage (TS)



COURSE	
ST2	Start – 1 – 1a – 2S/2P – 1 – 1a – 3 – 4 - finish
ST3	Start – 1 – 1a – 2S/2P – 1 – 1a – 3 – 4 – 1 – 1a – 2P - finish
ST4	Start – 1 – 1a – 2S/2P – 1 – 1a – 3 – 4 – 1 – 1a – 2S/2P – 1 – 1a – 3 – 4 – finish
COURSE	
TS2	Start – 1 – 1a – 3 – 4 – 1 – 1a – 2P - finish
TS3	Start – 1 – 1a – 3 – 4 – 1 – 1a – 2S/2P – 1 – 1a – 3 – 4 - finish
TS4	Start – 1 – 1a – 3 – 4 – 1 – 1a – 2S/2P – 1 – 1a – 3 – 4 – 1 – 1a – 2P - finish

**ATTACHMENT 2 – GATE START AREA**

(to see a gate start in progress, go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oOVLpqBLt5s>)





## ATTACHMENT 3 – CLASSIC BOATS

### Classic boat qualifying criteria

Boat Builder	'Classic' Qualifying Criteria
Chippendale	All boats built
High Performance Sailcraft	All boats built
Plycraft	All boats built
R. Moores & Son	All boats built
Rondar	All boats built
Rowsell & Morrison	All boats built
Stanley & Thomas	All boats built
Bob Hoare	Numbers up to 13856
Goodwin Numbers	Numbers up to 14200
Severn Sailboats	Numbers up to 14000
Winder Numbers	Numbers up to 14109 plus boat number 14129
Amateur built boats	Numbers up to 14000